**Crafting the South Louisiana Sound**

Curated by Anya Burgess and Chris Segura
Presented in partnership with Festivals Acadiens et Créoles and the Center for Louisiana Studies

**Exhibition Dates:** Sept 8 – Oct 15, 2017
(Limited Viewing Hours)
Reception: Fri, Sept 8, 6:00-8:00 PM
Film Screening: Wed, Oct 4, 6:00 PM
Gallery Tour: Wed, Oct 11, 6:00 PM

The Hilliard University Art Museum is pleased to announce *Crafting the South Louisiana Sound*, an exhibition that celebrates the long history of musical instrument builders in our region. This exhibition is showcased in the museum’s historic A. Hays Town Building and is presented in partnership with Festivals Acadiens et Créoles and the Center for Louisiana Studies. It is free for the public to tour.

The exhibition will be on view during the following times:
- Tuesdays, 12-3 pm
- Wednesdays, 12-8 pm
- Thursdays, 12-3 pm (closed on September 28)
- Fridays, 12-3 pm (closed on September 29)
- Saturdays, 10-4 pm (closed on September 30)

**Curatorial Statement by Anya Burgess and Chris Segura:**

There is a long tradition in south Louisiana of people making musical instruments. In the early days it was done out of necessity. Music was all around, but ready-made instruments were not. Makers relied on their own ingenuity to craft musical instruments by hand, often using the few existing instruments as patterns for their work.

Modern instrument builders in Acadiana continue to rely on traditional methods, but have far greater access to high-quality tools and information. Although musical instrument making has largely shifted from a labor of necessity to a labor of love, local instrument builders have long provided the tools for Cajun and Creole musicians to carry on their musical heritage and move it forward.

*Crafting the South Louisiana Sound* highlights the work of musical instrument builders in south Louisiana from the 1930s to the present. The exhibit features hand-built accordions, violins, guitars, amplifiers, triangles and rubboards - as well as photographs and video footage, offering a glimpse into the minds and workshops of local makers.

It showcases work from some of the early local instrument builders, such as violin maker Emar Andrepont of Prairie Ronde and accordion builder Sidney Brown of Lake Charles. It also includes instruments made by modern craftsmen such as accordion builder Marc Savoy of Eunice, rubboard maker Tee-Don Landry of Sunset, and amplifier builder Jason Harrington of Lafayette.
Acknowledgements

_Crafting the South Louisiana Sound_ is sponsored by LUS Fiber and the Haynie Family Foundation.

Upon request, press and media kits are available that include high-resolution images and selected literature.

**Museum Hours, Admission & General Information**

The Hilliard University Art Museum is located at 710 East Saint Mary Boulevard, on the campus of University of Louisiana at Lafayette. Museum Hours are: Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm; Wednesday, 9:00 am to 8:00 pm; Saturday, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm; closed Sunday and Monday. General Admission: $5 Adults, $4 Seniors (62+), $3 Students (5-17). FREE for Members, UL Students/Staff/Faculty with identification, and visitors under 5. Guided tours of the galleries are available Friday & Saturday at 2 PM, complimentary with admission. For general information, please visit hillliardmuseum.org or call (337) 482-2278.

**About the Hilliard Museum**

The Hilliard University Art Museum operates on the campus of University of Louisiana at Lafayette, and was originally founded in 1964 as the Art Center for Southwest Louisiana. Featuring a state-of-the-art modern facility that was erected in 2004, the museum houses more than 2,200 objects in its permanent collection, and is the largest art exhibition space between New Orleans and Houston. The Hilliard serves a wide range of educational and cultural needs by fostering cross-disciplinary intellectual discourse on campus and throughout the region. At the core of the Hilliard’s mission is to collect, preserve, interpret, and exhibit the art of our time while celebrating the great diversity of Louisiana’s heritage.

**Concurrent and Upcoming Exhibitions at the Hilliard University Art Museum**


May 19, 2017 – December 9, 2017. _Spotlight on Francis Pavy_.


February 17, 2018 – May 19, 2018. _Lynda Frese: Survey_.

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